

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-3 (CANCELED).

4 (Currently Amended). An antisense oligonucleotide 8 to 50 nucleobases in length that specifically hybridizes and is 100% complementary to a sequence within the nucleic acid sequence spanning nucleotide 14 to 1741 of SEQ ID NO: 3, and demonstrates at least 12% inhibition of the expression of a nucleic acid molecule encoding acyl coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase-1 (ACAT) (SEQ ID NO: 3) in a cell that endogenously expresses said ACAT;

wherein said antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

5 (Previously Presented). The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

6 (Previously Presented). The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 4 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

7(Previously Presented). The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

8(Previously Presented). The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 4 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

9(Previously Presented). The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

10(Previously Presented). The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 4 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

Claim 11(CANCELLED).

12(Previously Presented). A composition comprising the antisense oligonucleotide of claim 4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13(Original). The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

Claim 14(CANCELLED).

15(Previously Presented). A method of inhibiting the expression of acyl coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase-1 (ACAT) in cells or tissues that

endogenously express said ACAT comprising contacting said cells or tissues *in vitro* with the antisense oligonucleotide of claim 4 so that expression of acyl coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase-1 is inhibited.

Claims 16-23 (CANCELLED).

24 (Previously Presented). The antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 4, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide demonstrates at least 30% inhibition of the expression of a nucleic acid molecule encoding acyl coenzyme A cholesterol acyltransferase-1.